

Lebanon appeals to superpowers

BEIRUT (AP) — Acting Prime Minister Saïm Hoss appealed to U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to take up the Lebanese crisis in their upcoming summit conference in Moscow. A spokesman for the prime minister's office said the appeal was made in identical messages to both superpower leaders through U.S. Ambassador John Kelly and Soviet Ambassador Vasili Kolotov. "My country has suffered much in terms of bloodshed and property destruction," wrote Hoss, according to the spokesman. "We appeal to you as the main guardians of world peace to remove the obstacles standing in the way of peace for Lebanon." Hoss blamed Israel for the failure of various peace initiatives to end the Lebanese conflict. "Israel has defied the United Nations resolutions on Lebanon by keeping (maintaining) direct occupation of part of South Lebanon under the pretext of establishing a security belt that it is using as a launching pad for almost daily aggressions against the Lebanese and Palestinian people," Hoss' message said.

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جريدة الأردن تأسست في 1975، بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية الرأي.

Arab foreign ministers meet Sunday

TUNIS (AP) — Arab League foreign ministers will meet Sunday over the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories. Arab League sources told Reuters Wednesday a full session would begin in the afternoon after a morning meeting of a special foreign ministers' committee set up in January to propose a unified strategy on the issue. Last Thursday, the 21-member Arab League leadership-level six-monthly session in Tunis, High on the agenda of the foreign ministers' meeting will be a call for a full emergency Arab summit to discuss support for the four-month uprising. Algeria, a member of the Arab League committee on the uprising, officially requested an emergency summit March 9. The call is now officially supported by over half the league's membership. The question of when and where such a meeting could take place will be one of the main questions debated Sunday. The committee on the uprising will report on its recent tour of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

King, Shultz discuss requirements of peace

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer
with agency dispatches

AMMAN — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz briefed His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday on the outcome of his latest round of talks with the region's leaders.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that the King and Shultz reviewed efforts for an international conference on the Middle East and the requirements for peace in the region.

The meeting, held at the residence of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, was attended by the prime minister, Royal Court Chief Marshal Ali Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri.

On the U.S. side it was attended by Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy and senior State Department officials.

It is Shultz's second visit to Jordan in 36 hours. He held talks with the King Tuesday noon and later flew to Damascus where he held talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

He returned to Israel late Tues-

"The very important issue is

the international conference. The other issues, I think, could be solved," Mubarak said.

Under the Shultz plan, unveiled in late February, a non-binding international conference would lead to talks on Palestinian autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza, followed by Arab-Israeli negotiations on the "final status" of the territories.

Mubarak said he hoped Shultz, who flatly opposes an international conference, would change his ideas "for the sake of peace."

Shultz, leaving Tel Aviv earlier, also obliquely chided Shultz, whom many regard as the major obstacle to the U.S. proposals.

Speaking after talks with Israeli officials, he admitted that "differences have not been substantially narrowed."

But he said Washington remained determined and would take the peace plan to "a new and more detailed operational stage."

Shultz met Shamir for an hour and a half in talks described by Shamir aide Avi Pazner as "very friendly." The last 15 minutes of the session were private.

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A scene from exercises performed by the Special Forces Corps (left) during a celebration Wednesday and His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, hands over standards to Special Forces Corps units (Petra photo).

King attends Special Forces ceremony

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, attended a ceremony to mark the 25th anniversary of the Special Forces Corps.

King Hussein heard a speech by the corps commander and then handed standards to newly formed units.

Later the King took the salute at a passing-out parade and watched exercises in which the Special

Forces displayed parachuting skills, hand fights, tae-kwon-do martial arts etc. The exercises also included a mock raid in which air-borne units took part with artillery support.

Her Royal Highness Princess Aisha, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and other senior officers and invited guests attended the exercises.

King receives Soviet official

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday received visiting Soviet-Jordanian Friendship Society President Nikolai Trubilin, who conveyed to him greetings of the Soviet leadership.

Trubilin also paid tribute to Soviet-Jordanian relations and cooperation in various fields.

The King voiced appreciation of the Soviet Union's support for Arab causes and discussed with Trubilin the role of the Soviet-Jordanian Friendship Society in further boosting and bolstering Jordanian-Soviet cooperation.

The audience was attended by Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society President Bahjat Al Talhouni and Soviet Ambassador to Jordan Alexander Zinchuk.

Earlier Wednesday, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai met with Trubilin (See page 3).

Celebrations

The Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society held a celebration Wednesday at the Al Hussein Youth City on the occasion of its 20th anniversary.

Talhouni and Trubilin exchanged speeches underlining Jordanian-Soviet cooperation.

Talhouni noted that the visit to the Soviet Union late last year by His Majesty the King had good results on bilateral ties and the Arab-Soviet dialogue held here last month had strengthened the ties of friendship between the Arab World and the Soviet Union.

Trubilin expressed the Soviet Union's satisfaction with the growth of Soviet-Jordanian relations. He condemned Israeli attacks against Arab states and voiced support for the Arab call for an international peace conference on the Middle East and for implementation of Security Council Resolution 598 on the Iran-Iraq war.

Rifai meets GCC chief

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai met at his office Wednesday with Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Secretary-General Abdullah Bishara who concluded a two-day visit to Jordan at the invitation of the University of Jordan later in the day.

The prime minister and Bishara discussed Jordanian-GCC cooperation and ways of bolstering inter-Arab relations and solidarity, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

Bishara, who later left for home, delivered a lecture at the University of Jordan's Strategic Studies Centre on cooperation among Gulf states. He said such cooperation does not contradict with any form of unity among Arab states but it rather enhances such unity. Bishara said the GCC, which was formed in 1981, had unlimited scopes of cooperation to strengthen the economies and defences of the Gulf countries.

All the Gulf states, he said, are determined to confront all issues in a collective manner and all are agreed on enhancing stability and security in the Gulf region, Petra reported.

Hijack drama drags on in Iran

Kuwaiti targets in 1983.

Iranian Radio said a Kuwaiti team of Foreign Ministry officials and doctors flew into Mashhad airport on Wednesday afternoon for negotiations with the hijackers. They immediately went into talks with Iranian officials, it said.

But Western diplomats in Kuwait said the Kuwaiti officials had gone to Mashhad to observe the situation at first hand, rather than to negotiate with the hijackers.

The hijackers threatened there was "imminent danger" to three passengers who are members of Kuwait's ruling Al Sabah family, including two women, if their demands were not met.

They have been identified by relatives in Kuwait as two sisters in their early 30s, Ebtesam Khaled Al Sabah and Anware Khaled Al Sabah, and their brother Fadel Khaled Al Sabah, described as a businessman in his 40s.

In Tehran, senior military spokesman Kamal Kharrazi told a news conference attended by an AP reporter that the "hijackers" identity is still not known to us.

We only know that they speak Arabic and want the prisoners in Kuwait to be freed."

There was confusion over the deadline to meet the demands.

One deadline, as reported by Tehran Radio, passed at 10 a.m.

(0630 GMT). But after that, IRNA said the hijackers contacted the tower "to remind that the respite is nearing the end."

"Time is getting short and you have not done anything for us yet," Tehran Radio quoted the hijackers as telling the control tower, adding: "If we do not come to an agreement, we will depart for another destination."

The Kuwaiti cabinet met in an emergency session under Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Abdallah Al Sabah during the night, and declared it would not give in to "blackmail."

Britain, with 12 nationals still aboard the jetliner, said it would not put pressure on Kuwait to negotiate despite threats to the passengers.

"We do not give in to blackmail because it only leads to further tragedies," Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told reporters on the steps of her 10 Downing St. office.

A physician, identified only as Dr. Qassem, was dispatched to

(Continued on page 5)

Amal, Hizbullah locked in fierce battle in south

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Rival militias backed by Syria and Iran fought fierce street battles for control of South Lebanon for a second straight day Wednesday.

Police said 12 people have been killed and 34 injured.

A police spokesman said Justice Minister Nabil Berriz's mainstream Amal militia deployed armoured personnel carriers, mortars and rocket-propelled grenade launchers in the confrontation with the Iranian-backed Hizbullah (Party of God) in 14 south-

(Continued on page 5)

Iraq fires 5 missiles into Tehran

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraqi gunners fired four rockets simultaneously into Tehran during the morning rush hour Wednesday after its warplanes blasted a supertanker near an offshore oil complex in the central Gulf.

Tehran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said 16 people were killed and "many" others were wounded in the barrage.

IRNA said 15 other civilians were killed in Iraqi air raids on six towns in the southeastern Khuzestan province.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said at 9:29 a.m. (0529 GMT),

four towns and villages.

He said Amal militiamen also "toured the south in loudspeakers blaring warnings to Hizbullah fighters to surrender their weapons and avert the bloodshed."

"Our main aim is security and stability for the south. Whoever surrenders his weapon(s) will live in peace," the spokesman quoted Amal officials as telling Hizbullah militiamen.

(Continued on page 5)

four missiles were fired into Tehran, "the nest of hypocrites and charlatans." Work hours in Tehran usually begin at 9:00 a.m. (0530 GMT).

Other casualties occurred in Iraqi air raids on Urumiyeh and Salmas in the northwest, Isfahan and Islamabad Gharb in the west and Dezful, Shushtar and Majed Soleymany in the southwest, IRNA said.

IRNA said 15 other civilians were killed in Iraqi air raids on six towns in the southeastern Khuzestan province.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said at 9:29 a.m. (0529 GMT),

"Our people consider the superpowers partners in these threats and crimes and will surely not leave them unanswered."

It was one of the heaviest single barrages on the Iranian capital since the so-called "war of the cities" was rekindled Feb. 29.

Since then, Iraq has been pounding the Iranian capital with missiles, usually firing only one or two at a time.

The Iraqi agency said Basra and the Umm Qasr port cities were hit with missiles and artillery during the night. It said one

(Continued on page 5)

government. Gorbachev has called the Soviet military engagement "a bleeding wound" and faces domestic pressure to bring the troops home.

But the Kremlin has made clear that the withdrawal will be on its own terms and is determined to leave behind a well-armed government in Kabul with continuing military support covered in existing agreements.

Diplomats in Moscow said Gorbachev would like to begin pulling the troops out before his summit with U.S. President Ronald Reagan in Moscow at the end of May.

Rebel leaders based in Pakistan have refused to back any agreement involving the present Kabul authorities and pledge to continue the war.

At the time of the clash and was stoned by Palestinians. The girl was killed in the ensuing gunfire.

An army statement said two security guards on the bus opened fire at the stone throwers, killing two Palestinians and wounding two others.

It said that during the clash Palestinians grabbed the guns of the guards and opened fire on the Israeli, killing the girl and wounding three others.

Jihad Hawari, the Arab head of the Israeli-appointed village council of Hawara adjacent to Beita, said at 10 a.m. a group of settlers entered the village of Beita on foot.

He said a large number of Arabs from the region had gathered in the village, which had been declared "liberated" and was bedecked with the Palestinian flag.

The settlers asked the people in the village to take down the Palestinian flags. So people at the village started throwing rocks at the settlers who began to fire back directly into the crowd," said Hawari.

Hawari, who said he was in Beita when the incident took place, said Palestinians took about 10 Israeli captives briefly.

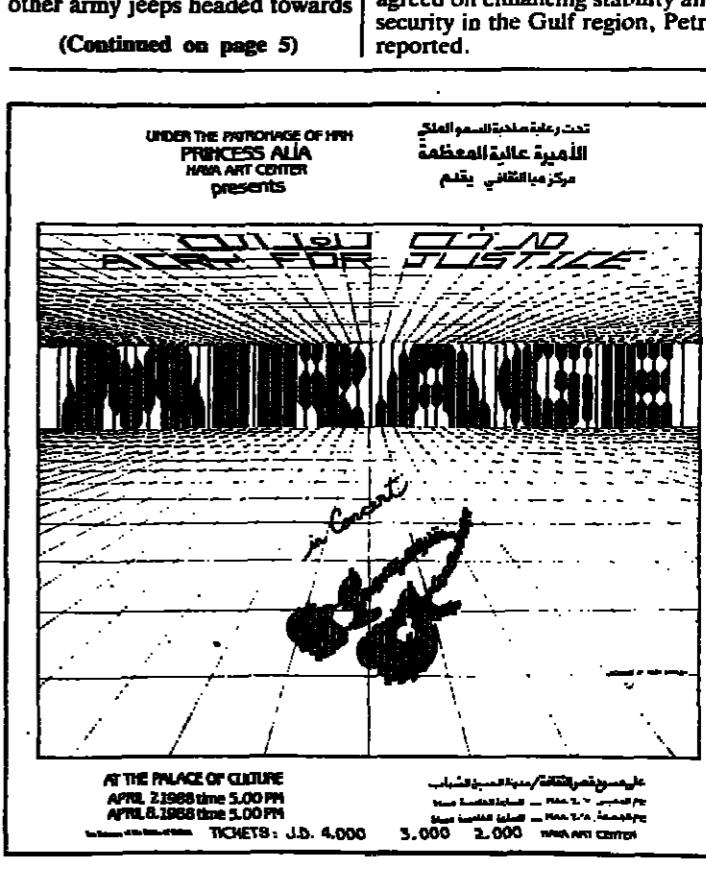
After one hour, more settlers came and tried to enter the village, but could not get inside. He said the Israelis were released.

Israel Radio said one Israeli boy disappeared from the bus and was later found in one of the houses in the village lightly injured.

Arab witnesses said the clash lasted about 90 minutes until soldiers arrived and sealed the village.

Associated Press reporter Mary Sedor who drove to the village in mid-afternoon said the entrance was blocked by seven army jeeps. She said she saw army ambulances enter the village, a helicopter overhead and other army jeeps headed towards

(Continued on page 5)



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This photo is taken from a full page advertisement in the British Guardian newspaper. The advertisement is sponsored by the British government's Health Education Authority. It warns people of the dangers of smoking at work and informs non-smokers (passive smokers) of their right to clean air as guaranteed by the law.

April 7 is World's 1st No Tobacco Day

Kill it before it kills you

In her second article Sama Atiyeh reports on the dangers of smoking and the business behind it.

AMMAN — Today is the World's first No Tobacco Day. So here is a challenge for all those who are addicted to tobacco: Today is your chance not to light that cigarette, cigar or pipe. Today is your chance to find out whether you are a slave to those cancer sticks or not.

Once the smoker realises and understands the dangers of what tobacco does to one's body, it only makes sense not to smoke, according to Dr. Zuhier Malhas, head of the National Jordanian Anti-Smoking Society, (NJASS).

"If a person is intelligent enough to value God's gift to one's soul (body) and to believe what is written about the dangers, then there should be very little attempt to convince one of the dangers of smoking," Malhas told the Jordan Times.

Smoking is known to be a major cause of lung cancer and other lung diseases, coronary heart diseases, ulcers, and other forms of cancers. World Health Organisation (WHO) figures say that about 2.5 million people around the world die each year from diseases related to smoking.

Malhas, who himself smoked

for 17 years, quit in 1964 after the relationship between smoking and lung cancer was discovered and the first American surgeon general report on smoking came out. "I saw so much misery while I was still training in medicine in the U.S. that I thought nothing is worth that much misery. Why take the risk?" Malhas said.

The doctor believes that there is a very large number of habitual smokers in Jordan, although there are no recent statistics. The last available percentage was obtained from a study on smoking conducted in 1982 which showed that 58 per cent of the Jordanian population — 71 per cent of the males and 44 per cent of the females — between the ages of 18 and 70 are habitual smokers.

Cigarette companies and government profit

"And who are the only ones who benefit from this hazardous and killing habit? The cigarette companies," Malhas stated.

In 1987 the United States, the world's largest tobacco exporter, sold about 100 billion American

blend cigarettes abroad, finding a \$2 billion market in the Third World.

"Over the past decades, the cigarette companies have dug so much power in the industrial and business world and their ramifications are so deep-rooted that it is very difficult to fight them. They pour in billions of dollars into advertisement and now have the insolence of patronising sports events such as tennis, basketball and car races," Malhas noted.

In Jordan, the Ministry of Supply, the only suppliers of foreign cigarettes, imported and sold JD 1,504 million-worth of cigarettes from January to October 1987. In 1985 the government lifted the ban on foreign cigarettes, importing JD 1,047 million the first year, and JD 1,151 million in 1986.

However, most of the Jordanian smokers smoke locally-made cigarettes. Figures obtained by the Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette Company Limited, established in 1931, sold JD 48.2 million worth of cigarettes in Jordan last year. Numbers show that 3.1 billion cigarettes were sold in 1987. An average of 1,000 cigarettes per citizen.

Figures published by the local company also show a one billion

A recent finding by an inde-

cigarette consumption increase since 1978, and a JD 35.7 million increase of sales during the same period.

The company's report also reveals that out of the JD 48.2 million of net local sales in 1987, JD 38.4 million were duties paid to the government by the producers: 80 per cent of their sales.

"How could the government possibly pressure the local producers into cutting down on their production of cigarettes when they make so much money out of it, and when they are the ones who import the foreign cigarettes?" Malhas, a former health minister said.

He added that the government also funds 66 per cent of the cost of tobacco grown by farmers while the company pays the rest of 34 per cent.

No smoking please

"People are free to smoke and destroy their own health if they choose, but they should not infringe their smoke on others, including babies if the women are pregnant," Malhas noted, adding that smoke is "poison inhaled and exhaled." He said that non-smokers have the right to have a healthy and clean, pollution-free environment.

A recent finding by an inde-

pendent scientific committee on smoking and health in Britain said that passive smoking, or "side-stream smoking," may cause several hundred lung cancer deaths each year worldwide. The study said that the risk of passive smokers getting lung cancer increases by ten to thirty per cent.

All those non-smokers interviewed by the Jordan Times agreed that other people's smoke bothers them a great deal. "I don't smoke because of health reasons. So why should someone else come along and infringe upon my right to breathe clean air. I'd smoke if I wanted to destroy my health," Patty, an American, told the Jordan Times.

Patty said she does not mind people smoking out in the open air because it would not affect her. But she, like all other non-smokers who spoke to the Jordan Times, is annoyed from smoke in closed space because "I inhale the smoke, it stings my eyes, and my clothes and my hair start to stink. Everytime I go home from the office I have to air my clothes out, wash my hair and take a shower because I feel and smell disgusting," she stressed.

Patty pointed out that in the U.S. it is easier to tell others not to smoke if it bothers her because smoking has lately become less acceptable there. But she finds it difficult to make that request in Jordan because of cultural reasons.

"In many states in the U.S. you can actually take legal action against smokers who smoke in non-smoking areas. Here, people find it rude to ask them not to smoke, so you have to him by politely asking if you can open the window or something," she said.

Patty pointed out that one of the reasons she never felt like smoking was because her mother, the only smoker in their family of tea, always smoked (and still does) and this bothered her like it bothered her sisters and brothers.

But the most compelling reason against her not smoking is the number of books, pictures, films she had seen in elementary school which all showed smoking and non-smoking lungs. "I still have nightmares about those black lungs," she confessed.

Malhas said that the society plans to launch awareness campaigns against smoking in elementary and secondary schools, as well as in colleges. He added that these campaigns will also reach the public through all forms of media, especially television.

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pendent scientific committee on smoking and health in Britain said that passive smoking, or "side-stream smoking," may cause several hundred lung cancer deaths each year worldwide. The study said that the risk of passive smokers getting lung cancer increases by ten to thirty per cent.

"We have to try our best to prevent the initiation of smoking among younger people, because unsubstated observations show that a larger number of kids are beginning to smoke at an early age," he said.

What is being done to combat smoking in Jordan? According to Malhas, since 1977 the Ministry of Health had banned local magazines, newspapers, radio and television from carrying cigarette advertisements. "We are probably the only Arab country that has enforced this regulation," Malhas commented.

It is believed that if smoking is prohibited in both government and private institutions, then tobacco addicts will eventually quit on their own. "If smoking was banned in the office and no one else smoked, then I would not smoke during the ten hours of work, and probably quit all together," Abdul Salam, a former smoker told the Jordan Times.

Another heavy smoker, Mohammad, had quit several times for several months and started again because he felt that if he did not smoke he would be inhaling just as much smoke from others who come to his office.

Mohammad normally smokes 80 per cent less when travelling in Europe or the U.S. because more and more people in the West are kicking the habit in response to no smoking campaigns.

It is also believed that non-smokers will eventually demand from their guests not to smoke in their homes, instead of serving cigarettes out of Arabic hospitality.

The doctor said that the ministry has set out policies prohibiting smoking in public areas. The government has recently launched the enforcement of regulations banning smoking in public transport and public gathering halls such as cinemas and theatres.

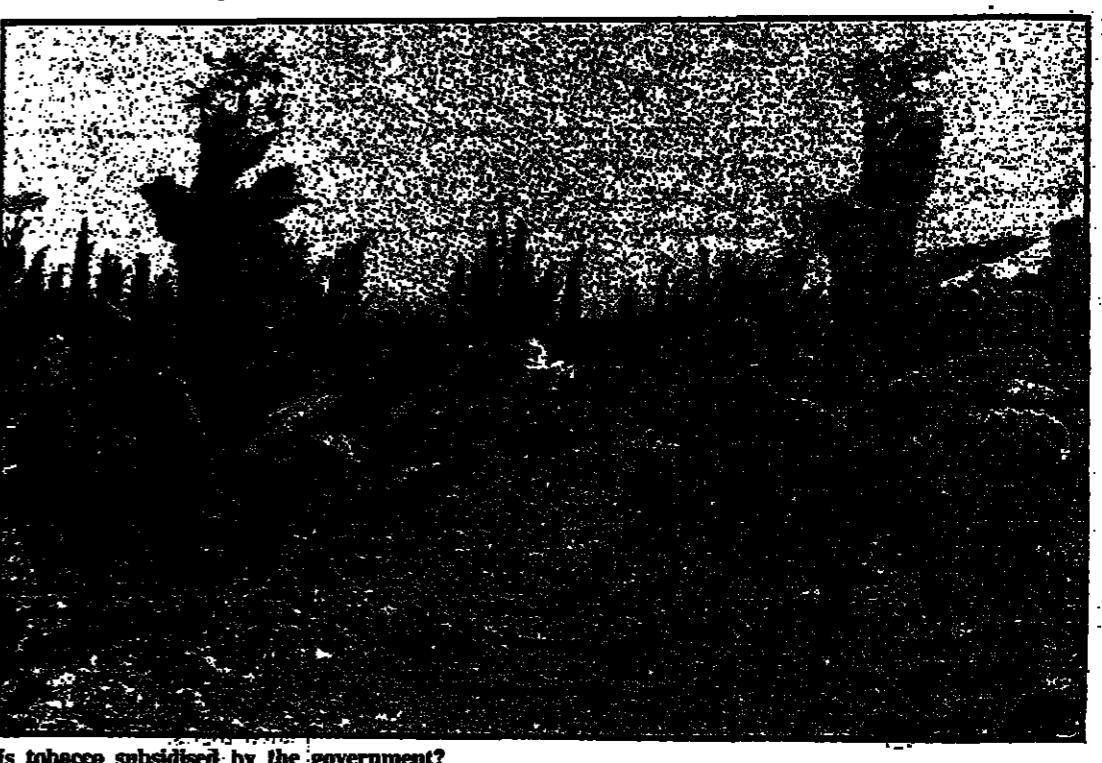
According to the regulations, "no smoking" signs must be displayed in all public places and public transport, and those places that

ironically, a cancer victim. This practice is common in Arab homes during all occasions.

Malhas said that it may take tens of years before Jordanians cut down on smoking. "The anti-smoking campaign in the U.S. began in 1964, and only in the past couple of years has the fight against smoking become evident," he said; adding that physicians in Jordan must stop smoking in order to influence their patients against the habit. He noted that the number of smoking physicians in the U.S. has gone down to 10 per cent, and that is one effective and necessary way to campaign against it. The 1982 study on smoking showed that 51 per cent of Jordanian physicians were smokers.

The National Jordanian Anti-Smoking Society, in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, will hold a three-day pan-Arab conference on smoking on April 11. The conference, a result of the first seminar on smoking last year, will include participants from eight different Arab countries.

NJASS, a non-profit, voluntary society was established in 1983 in order to spread information about the harmful effects of tobacco smoke and to help in various campaigns to decrease tobacco consumption. The society, comprised of physicians, health workers and other interested parties, tries to encourage smokers to quit and non-smokers not to start. They have published anti-smoking pamphlets and distributed them to many institutions.



is tobacco subsidised by the government?

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Queen's award to benefit writers of children's books

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Noor Al Hosseini Foundation (NHF) has decided to create an award to be called "Queen Noor Award" for those excelling in writing children's literature.

A NHF announcement said that upon directives from Her Majesty Queen Noor the award should be presented to creative Jordanian writers in this field under conditions to be worked out by NHF, in conjunction with the Jordanian Writers Federation.

The announcement said that it is hoped that Queen Noor Awards will be presented to outstanding writers during Jordan's Day of the Arab Child in October 1988.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

FUNERAL: His Majesty King Hussein delegated the Mafrag governor to take part in a funeral for the late Sheikh Qasem Al Aitan, former member of the Upper House of Parliament for the Northern Badia regions. The death of Aitan was earlier announced by the House's Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi who said the late Mr. Aitan died Wednesday morning.

CONDOLENCES: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday deplored the director of the Mafrag Governorate police department to attend the funeral of Sheikh Qasem Al Aitan and convey condolences to Bani Hassan tribe.

COMPANY FOR EXPATRIATES: Minister of Labour and Social Development Rashid Ureikat Wednesday discussed with a delegation representing the Jordanian community in Kuwait the measures and steps for founding an investment holding company for Jordanian expatriates.

SOCIAL WORKERS HONoured: A ceremony was held at Amman Hotel in Amman for honouring veteran social workers and to mark the opening of week-long meeting to discuss social work in the Kingdom. Among those present were Dr. Ahmad Abou Qoura president of the Jordanian National Red Crescent Society and Dr. Mohammad Sajour, the Ministry of Social Development's secretary general who distributed awards to 12 veterans or representatives of leading organisations specialising in the field of social work.

ALGERIAN TEAM: Public Security Department (PSD) Director Lieutenant General Abdul Hadi Al Majali Wednesday met with a visiting delegation representing Algerian police led by Brigadier Al Tayeb Salab.

Justice minister returns from talks in Kuwait

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Justice Ministers Council, which met recently in Kuwait, gave due attention to proposals made by Jordan concerning a legal study on the status of Jerusalem and the occupied Arab territories, Justice Minister Riad Al Shakaa said here Wednesday.

The minister who was speaking upon his return to Amman from the meeting said that the proposal was originally made by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and the council's general secretariat had been provided with documents collected by Jordan in this regard.

The council made a preliminary study of the proposal and recommended that more documents be gathered for a full study, the minister said.

The council also endorsed a draft pan-Arab civil status law and a draft pan-Arab strategy on judicial affairs, Shakaa added.

He said that the council's secretariat has been instructed to convene a seminar for Arab thinkers and lawmakers to discuss the legal status of Jerusalem and the occupied Arab territories, and Israel's violations of international law and infringement of Jordanian legislations.

Rawabdeh opens pharmacists conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The fourth Jordanian pharmacists conference was opened in Amman Wednesday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Delegates to the three-day meeting will review 24 working papers and research projects on pharmacy work, the effect of radiation on antibiotics, preservation of medicine and other related topics.

Nearly 500 pharmacists from Jordan's universities and pharmaceutical companies attended the opening session which was addressed by Greater Amman Mayor Abdal Ra'uf Al Rawabdeh who deputised for Prince Hassan.

Rawabdeh said that pharmacy work is an essential and basic part in the process of health care in the country.

Rawabdeh said there is need for new legislations designed to promote the work of pharmacists and protect their interests.

He urged the Jordanian Pharmacists Association (JPA) to play an active role in this affair.

The president of the Arab Pharmacists Union (APU) made a speech outlining the nature of working papers which will be reviewed by the participants.

However the availability of all these technical devices might be the reason which have led the band to polish the instrumental part of their performances more the vocal one. Still Mirage is progressing and gaining in maturity.

The environment is an element which dramatically affects music development. In this scope, a rock group living and working in England for instance, stands much more chances at the start to deliver quality work than one living in the Middle East, and this for obvious reasons. Local groups have to fight harder in Jordan and all things considered and weighed, Mirage is doing great.

Another handicap on not only rock bands but on all music groups is the availability on the market of pirate copy tapes, estimated at more than 95 per cent of the market. Wael Abu Nuwar complained about this situation which prevents musicians from producing and selling original material whether on cassettes or other media.

Mirage's future plans are a tour in Egypt, more videos and more music. Among the band's achievements: In the minds of Jordan's youth, Mirage is a rock group before being a jet fighter.

If you want to give up smoking for your own health and that of your family — visit your doctor — HE CAN HELP YOU.

Prizes to be won for both Competitions:

1st Prize: JD 15

2nd Prize: JD 10

3rd Prize: JD 5

Rifai, Trubilin hold talks

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai conferred in his office Wednesday with the president of the Soviet-Jordanian Friendship Society Nikolai Trubilin, who is currently on a visit to Jordan to take part in celebrations marking the 20th anniversary for the establishment of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society (JSFS).

Discussion at the meeting covered Jordanian-Soviet cooperation and friendship which was enhanced through a visit to the Soviet Union by His Majesty King Hussein.

Trubilin later was received by Deputy Prime Minister Thouqan Hindawi in the presence of JSFS President Bahjat Talhouni.

Hindawi expressed Jordan's appreciation of the society's role in promoting Jordanian-Soviet relations and deepening the spirit of understanding among the peoples of the two countries.

For his part Trubilin voiced his government's keenness on bolstering Jordanian-Soviet relations at all levels.

The Soviet visitor was received also by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri for a discussion on the Middle East question and the current situation in the occupied Arab territories.

He said Moscow always notices with satisfaction Jordan's support for Soviet proposals on disarmament for the achievement of world peace.

The Soviet Union he said condemns Israel's aggressive policies and its occupation of Arab land, and supports the idea of an international conference for achieving a lasting settlement.

Trubilin and his accompanying delegation were also received by Lower House of Parliament Speaker Akef Al Fayed who said

that Soviet-Jordanian relations were being strengthened all the time, thanks to the directives of King Hussein and the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Fayed voiced Jordan's appreciation of the Soviet Union's support of Arab causes and said that it is hoped Moscow will play further efforts towards establishing a durable and just peace in the region and in ending the occupation.

Referring to the occupied territories, Fayed said the current uprising was an expression of rejection by the Palestinian people of the Israeli occupation.

A just and durable solution can come through an international conference attended by all concerned parties with the Soviet Union playing an active role, Fayed said.

Referring to the Gulf conflict, Fayed expressed hope that U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 will be implemented so that peace can be re-established in the Gulf.

Trubilin said that Moscow is deeply satisfied with the level of relations and bilateral cooperation between Jordan and the Soviet Union.

He said Moscow always notices with satisfaction Jordan's support for Soviet proposals on disarmament for the achievement of world peace.

The Soviet Union he said condemns Israel's aggressive policies and its occupation of Arab land, and supports the idea of an international conference for achieving a lasting settlement.

Dentists conference opens

AMMAN (Petra) — The 15th conference of the Arab Dentists Union and the 7th Jordanian Dentists Conference opened at the Al Hussein Youth Centre in Amman Wednesday under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein.

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh who deputised for the King at the opening ceremony outlined the Health Ministry's programmes in dental care, as part of a campaign to spread and expand primary health care to all sectors.

Hamzeh briefed his audience on the development of dental services in the Kingdom and said that his ministry worked out a plan for the coming years de-

signed to increase the number of dental clinics around the country.

The Arab dentists union's president made a speech reviewing the union's activities and programmes, stressed the importance of inter-Arab cooperation and exchange of expertise in dental services.

He said that 96 participants from Arab and foreign countries will present 58 research projects dealing with dental care in the Arab World.

The minister later presented the Jordanian Dentists Association's shield to Jordanian veteran dentists.

The meetings are expected to last four days.

Police nab hashish traders

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Police foiled two attempts to traffic 115 kilogrammes of hashish stored in a number of hiding places in the Kingdom, and apprehended those in charge of the two operations, according to an announcement by the Public Security Department (PSD) Wednesday.

The announcement, released by the PSD's anti-narcotics chief, said that his department had been tipped about amounts of hashish that had been hidden in a number of regions around the country in preparation for peddling the illicit goods here and abroad.

The police busted two separate attempts to traffic the hashish nearly two weeks ago, seizing 73 kilogrammes in the first move, and 42 kilos in the second and

arresting all the smugglers involved in the two operations, the anti-narcotics chief explained.

He said that the apprehended smugglers were Jordanians and Syrians.

He said that anti-narcotics teams earlier seized an additional 10 kilogrammes of hashish in Amman in four separate cases and apprehended all 12 people of Jordanian and other nationalities involved in the operations.

Last month the anti-narcotics department arrested four drug smugglers and seized heroin worth \$600,000 in what was described as the largest shipment ever seen in the Kingdom for 18 years.

The heroin operation, in which six kilogrammes of the drug was seized involved two Jordanians

and two non-Jordanians.

In addition, there are messages directed at the campus' non-smokers and are aimed at acquainting them with certain legal provisions which protect non-smokers in Jordan.

Specifically, they refer to Article 3 of the law for the protection of public health which grants non-smokers the right to demand a non-smoking area in public

places.

The campaign spokesman said the campaign hopes that public awareness of this issue will lead to pressure on health and legal authorities to implement such law.

Material for the campaign was prepared by journalism majors in the university and is based on interviews with physicians, health officials and smokers, as well as available literature on the subject.

The Ministry of Health has also provided posters and slogans which were used in previous campaigns as well as World Health Organisation (WHO) publications.

Finally, smoking cessation classes will be held in the university to aid smokers in kicking off the habit.

Zawaideh: Jordan seeks better land distribution

NEW DELHI (Petra) — The Jordanian government is pursuing all efforts to carry out housing projects for needy and poor people and strives toward better exploitation and fairer distribution of land, Minister of Public Works and Housing Shafiq Zawaideh said here Wednesday.

Ities were continuing a process of demolishing Arab homes and evicting local population from their homeland. "At present Israeli forces are involved in atrocities against the Palestinian people who are in rebellion against the occupation."

"So far, 190 Arab citizens were killed and more than 5,000 others were injured at the hands of the Israeli forces, and no less than 9,000 others have been detained including children and women and old men," the minister added.

Zawaideh told the meeting that Jordan refuses to recognise an agreement concluded by Israel and the United Nations Development Programme on projects in Africa, and urges the UNHSC to refrain from conducting any deals pertaining to that agreement.

In referring to the situation in the occupied territories, Zawaideh said the Israeli author-

Hmoud meets senior Syrian officials

DAMASCUS (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud met here Wednesday with the Syrian People's Council Speaker Abdul Qader Qaddoura and discussed Arab affairs and Syrian-Jordanian cooperation in agricultural fields.

Earlier Wednesday, a Jordanian-Syrian technical committee met to discuss a memorandum for bilateral cooperation in agriculture, agricultural research projects and means of achieving agricultural integration between the two neighbouring Arab states.

The two ministers had been holding talks and visiting a number of Syrian agricultural projects.

Their talks covered bilateral cooperation in agricultural production, increasing animal wealth, food industries and the development of the badia regions

in both countries.

The two ministers visited agricultural research stations and heard briefings on their operations.

Hmoud was received by Syrian Prime Minister Mahmoud Al Zou'bi with whom he discussed new trends in promoting bilateral cooperation.

Hmoud and Ghabash briefed the prime minister on the progress of the Syrian-Jordanian talks on promoting cooperation in agricultural-related fields.

South Shuneh prepares sites for parks

SOUTH SHUNEH (Petra, J.T.)

The local authorities here have decided on two sites where public parks will be set up for the benefit of vacationers during winter season.

The announcement, made following a meeting held at the district governor's house here, said that concerned parties have

Yarmouk launches anti-smoking campaign

IRBID (J.T.) — An anti-smoking campaign will be launched at Yarmouk University on the occasion of the international day for the fight against smoking which is celebrated worldwide on April 7.

The Department of Journalism and Mass Communication is spearheading the effort which consists mainly of a media campaign aimed at acquainting smokers of the health, social and economic dangers of smoking.

According to the campaign spokesman, the campaign took place during Tuesday and Wednesday April 5, 6 when the university was in session and featured a wall display of posters, a mini-race, a lecture about the health hazards of smoking and the distribution of smoking-related messages in leaflets and

brochures.

The posters which were displayed throughout the campus contained especially-designed messages directed at university students warning about the adverse effects of smoking tobacco on health. Students have long been considered among the heaviest smoking segments of society by local health students.

Material for the campaign was prepared by journalism majors in the university and is based on interviews with physicians, health officials and smokers, as well as available literature on the subject.

The Ministry of Health has also provided posters and slogans which were used in previous campaigns as well as World Health Organisation (WHO) publications.

Finally, smoking cessation classes will be held in the university to aid smokers in kicking off the habit.

Win A Prize!!

3 prizes will be given for each competition

The dragon is very happy when he stops smoking cigarettes he breathes fresh clean air and feels fit and healthy but when he smokes he feels very unwell. Smoking makes him smell horrible, he coughs, splutters and feels sick. What colours do you think the dragon is when he smokes and when he stops smoking?

We (the newspaper editorial staff) are asking children up to 15 to participate in our competition. The competition is for two age groups.

1) for those up to 10 years of age, and 2) for those aged 11-15 years. All entries must give the dragon a name.

Competition 1: Children up to 10 years of age

1. Colour in the dragon. The first picture shows the dragon when he does not smoke cigarettes, what colour do you think he is?

2. The second picture shows him when he does smoke — what colour do you think he is now?

Colour the dragon using coloured pencils or crayons.

Competition 2: Children 11 to 15 years of age

Write in not more than 15 words why you think smoking is harmful.

All Children MUST name the dragon

What do YOU think the dragon's name is?

Name _____
Address _____

CLOSING DATE: ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY
20 APRIL 1988

SEND YOUR ENTRY TO:

JORDAN TIMES, EDITOR, PO BOX 6710, AMMAN, JORDAN

Sponsored by: The Jordan Times, The National Jordanian Anti-Smoking Society, and Smith Kline & French Laboratories Ltd., as a medical educational advertisement. The competition will be judged by a selected panel consisting of a representative of the Jordan Times, the National Jordanian Anti-Smoking Society and Smith Kline & French Laboratories Ltd. The judges' decisions are final.

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An honourable game

IT'S springtime, and the sounds of baseball are in the air. Even in Amman, baseball gloves are brought out, oiled, and broken in again, as players prepare for another season of the great American pastime. Of all the wonderful things that America has given the world, we rank baseball high on the list, along with *habeus corpus*, the Bill of Rights and cheesecake.

The essential beauty of baseball is its extraordinary fairness, balance and equity. It grants every player, and both teams, precisely equal opportunities, at bat and in the field. It allows players, teams, coaches and managers a variety of mechanisms to compensate for an imbalance in individual strengths among players of the opposing team. A small or light player compensated by astute fielding. A weak hitter may be a speedy base stealer. A poor fielder may be a superb pitcher. And an average athlete may be a skilled strategist.

The great equalising factor is the fact that both sides end up having the same opportunity, at bat and in the field. Baseball is the only field game that could, in theory, go on indefinitely, as it observes no formal time limits. No matter how large a lead one team may have over another, each team always has its last chance at bat. In theory, no lead or advantage is insurmountable. The assumption of equal opportunity, and equal rights, is what makes baseball such a fine endeavour, and such an appropriate symbol of all that is honourable in the American way of life.

It may seem strange to dwell on the qualities of baseball at a time when the world is preoccupied with so many pressing issues and conflicts. But then, we think what the world needs is more baseball, or at least an attitude to problem-solving and conflict-resolution that is in harmony with the fundamental equity and balance of the principles of baseball. And that is why the heart is receptive, and the mind gladdens, when the weather turns warm, the air is filled with the noise of the crack of the bat, and the umpire cries "play ball!"

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: U.S. unlimited support for Israel

SINCE his arrival in Israel at the start of a new tour of the Middle East, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has reiterated that the U.S. which has been supplying Israel with unlimited financial and economic and military help will continue to do that in the future. Shultz was careful to note that U.S. help to Israel is not connected in any way with the Jewish state's position with regard to the situation in the Middle East, nor will it be affected by any way should Israel continue to maintain its present position. This means that U.S. unlimited help will never stop even if Israel maintained its expansionist policies and continued to disregard the world community's resolutions. Thus the U.S. showed beyond doubt that the American administration will not only desist from exerting any pressure on Israel to make it change its intransigent position, but will also provide the Jewish state with all means to bolster its temptation of rejecting peace. We are disappointed with the U.S. which does not only refuse to put any pressure to end Israel's occupation and aggression, but because Washington seems to be determined to provide Israel with the means that enable it to maintain its aggressive policies on the Arabs in total defiance of international principles. We are also disappointed to hear Shultz announce that Israel was besieged by enemies because Shultz pretends to forget that it was Israel which usurped Arab land and stole Arab people's property. It is as if describing Israel as a pirate stealing a ship and later finding itself surrounded by the ship's lawful owners who Shultz describe as enemies and have no right to reclaim their own property.

Al Dustour: Shultz hears Jordan's firm stand

KING Hussein reiterated to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz Jordan's firm position with regard to the situation in the Middle East and this country's demand of a just and durable settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict. The King also reiterated Jordan's adherence to the idea of an international conference which can establish peace, an idea backed by all the Arab countries at their summit meeting in Amman last November. This idea has been supported by a majority of nations except Israel and the United States which had been hesitant to give its open and frank views about such a conference. The U.S. hesitation gave Israel sufficient encouragement to oppose the idea and to confront the will of the international community. This American stand continues to pave the way for Israel to maintain its aggression and its occupation of Arab land. Jordan, backed by the Arab countries, will continue to adhere to its just and firm position and will continue to demand that justice be done. We want the United States to muster enough courage and exert pressure on Israel to change its aggressive policies. Israel, as is clear to all, is pushing the U.S. into a difficult position where by it is losing all credibility, and at the same time, exposing its own interests in the Middle East to real danger.

Sawt Al Shaab: Is peace mission failing?

IT has become clear now that Israel's obstinate position has rendered the new U.S. proposal completely useless and void of all meaning. By refusing the American proposals Israel is trying to stall for time and to force the U.S. to withdraw its initiative and at the same time end the Palestinian people's uprising. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is now aware of the positions of all the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, but he opted to kill his own initiative by supporting Israel's rejectionist stand. The Arabs have done their best to convince the United States of their right demands and to make it clear that they really seek peace based on justice and want a comprehensive settlement. The Arabs told Shultz that peace in this region can only be established through an international conference with full powers to bring the conflict to an end. The Israelis, blinded by their military power supplied to them by the United States, and encouraged in their aggression by continued U.S. support at international forums, has shown further arrogance and expressed total rejection of the idea of peace.

The anatomy of government spending: The modes of finance

By Nayef S. Zubi

HERE, a critical review of the specifics of the recently announced government spending programme will be presented. I will address the modes of financing in this article, while the economic impact of the different components of the government spending programme will follow in a subsequent article.

The modes of financing

Governments can finance economic activities by increasing taxes, issuing more debt, or simply printing more money. In the case of Jordan, a highly volatile foreign aid supplements the above-mentioned financing modes. A dwindling foreign and Arab aid simply puts more pressure on local means of finance.

The unpopularity of explicit taxes has usually pushed governments to rely on implicit taxes, on debt financing, and, in the case of reckless governments, on the money printing press.

The government in Jordan intends to finance 20 per cent of its spending — JD 125 million — by borrowing from the Social Security Fund (SSF). The other 80 per cent will be financed from the 1986-1990 five-year plan budget.

Borrowing from SSF

In borrowing from the Social Security Fund, the government has effectively issued new claims over already existing ones. The social security system is in itself no more than a form of public debt. The difference in comparison with other forms of public debt is a slight degree of uncertainty arising from the uncertain lives of potential retirees. This mode of financing is simply deferring the tax burden into the future — be it a crude inflation tax, or an explicit or implicit tax. That is so because the government should service its debt, not from a tooth fairy, but from the economy's real resources.

In establishing the social security system, the government has already issued claims to provide future retirees their due benefits. The social security funds, as well as the discounted future social security taxes, should equal the discounted cash flows of future benefits — all in expected terms — to have a sound social security system. We owe it to ourselves that that type of argument does not make much sense. The funds are borrowed at the expense of their best alternative.

While nothing is fundamentally wrong in issuing debt claims to finance a project, the borrowing rates should reflect the current best alternative of borrowed funds. In the jargon of business finance, those rates on borrowed funds should reflect the riskiness of the project to be financed, and these are market-determined variables. Also implicit in borrowing funds to finance a project is that the project should cover up the cost of borrowed capital. That obviously does not apply in the case of the JD 25 million borrowed funds. One, however, would like to assume that the nine per cent to be paid by the government on those funds actually reflect the fund's best alternative. Other special consideration of this mode of financing include:

First, the decision to lend social security funds should be far and foremost an investment portfolio decision. In the jargon of business finance, the objective should be to attain an efficient investment

portfolio. That is, for given risks, it maximises return, and for a given return, it minimises risk exposure.

Second, government borrowing from the social security funds, in a well-functioning credit market, will simply limit funds to private projects. It will crowd out worthwhile private investments in favour of low return public investments and a variety of wasteful government programmes.

Third, a subtle problem of the social security system, in comparison to a privately-run investment fund, lies in the incentive structure in both cases. While the negative implications of the defacto separation between management and control in business corporations on the welfare of corporate shareholders is a subject of controversy, they are more acute for publicly-held organisations. There is simply no accountability for bad investment decisions in publicly-managed investment funds, especially when managers know that bailing out is always there. Why look for examples, the bail-out of bad investment decisions is an integral part of the government spending programme.

More to the above, there is no way to control the bureaucrats running the public funds in the same way the business finance literature suggests regarding business managers, namely: The market for managers disciplines their behaviour. Take, for example, the claimants to social security funds. They simply have no control over the management behaviour. A solution should tie the management compensation to the fund's performance relative to an average investment index.

Funding from the 5-year plan budget

The other 80 per cent of the government spending programme — JD 100 million — will be funded from the 1986-1990 five-year plan budget. Even if the JD total amount of the five-year budget is to be constant, the present value of the five-year plan is now higher than otherwise it would be. This simply translates that more resources are needed. A simple example illustrates the point. Assume for a moment that JD 1,000 million, with JD 200 million, each year were allocated initially over the next five years. If now the government decides to spend JD 250 million in the first two years, JD 166 million, JD 166 million, and JD 168 million in the last three years, thus leaving the total budget constant, then it is simple to show that the present value of the initial budget outlay stream of JD 200, 200, 200, 200, and 200 million is smaller than that of JD 250, 250, 166, 166, 168 million unless the social discount factor or interest rate is zero.

The point I am trying to make here is that if the government intends to keep the JD amount of the budget constant, then spending more now compared to later would entail extracting more resources, which would eventually come through either higher taxes or higher public debt. Another important point, I do not see why more government prime pumping of the economy need to have substantially different implications to an already existing five-year budget. Adding more accounting gimmicks does not change what is fundamentally an economic problem.

'Americans should not urge Israel to explore the dark horizon'

Always there, why not now?

By Abba Eban

PROPOSALS for international conferences to discuss the Middle East were always accepted by Israeli governments in the past. Why not now?

At Rhodes in 1949, four conferences resulted in general armistice agreements that legitimised Israel's pre-1967 boundaries. In Lausanne, later that year a peace conference collapsed without detriment to Israel. In March 1968, Israel accepted, and the Arab states refused, an invitation by a United Nations mediator, Gunnar Jarring, to hold "conferences" in New York for implementing Security Council Resolution 242.

In December 1973, an international conference under American-Soviet auspices enabled Henry A. Kissinger to negotiate a peace agreement between Israel and Egypt and Syria. These were crucial for Israel. The alternative would have been the renewal of war between vast Israeli, Egyptian and Syrian forces, which stood in dangerous proximity, against a background of recent Soviet threats of intervention, an American nuclear alert and the paralysis of the Israeli economy through mobilisation.

Moreover, Secretary of State George P. Shultz has offered Israel the kind of imaginative and detailed protection that none of his predecessors ever envisaged. Israel would enter a conference with uncertain expectations of success but close to zero risk of serious harm. The idea that the

Soviet auspices that was to negotiate with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation on the future of the West Bank and Gaza. The voyage of Egypt's president, Anwar Sadat, to Jerusalem suspended this agreement.

We can thus divide previous international conferences in our region between those that brought Israel great benefit and those that did us no harm. Successive Israeli governments have understood that procedural frameworks have little effect on the eventual outcome, provided the participants know what they can accept and what they must refuse.

If states have often preferred to negotiate in improvised conferences rather than in the United Nations, it is precisely because the conference method is less committal. Security Council meetings, which Israel attends, without hesitation, have a theoretical power of coercion and a punitive capacity. An international conference has none of these potentially rigorous attributes.

Moreover, Secretary of State George P. Shultz has offered Israel the kind of imaginative and detailed protection that none of his predecessors ever envisaged. Israel would enter a conference with uncertain expectations of success but close to zero risk of serious harm. The idea that the

United States and Israel, the most influential superpower and the strongest military power in the region, would be isolated in a conference is absurd. If the United States and Israel are together, the other participants will be subsidiary.

It is bizarre to watch eminent American commentators with an ardent, if volatile, record of friendship for Israel criticising Shultz's plan in apocalyptic terms. Their strident warnings take account neither of Israel's preponderant military power nor of the fact that Israel holds all the world records for rejecting proposals that conflict with its interests.

Israel has a long experience of resisting the designs of its enemies. Reacting to the counsels of well-meaning friends is a more delicate art. In the past few years we have received the following items of friendly advice: attack Syrian forces in the Bekaa Valley ("give Assad a bloody nose"); avoid leaving Lebanon without "finishing off the Palestine Liberation Organisation"; maintain permanent control of an alienated foreign population; close the occupied territories permanently to the international media; and now reject the only available method of negotiating with our immediate neighbours to end what Shultz has rightly called "an untenable and unacceptable status quo."

If Israel had accepted all these friendly incitements to militancy in recent years, we would have filled many Israeli graveyards and hospitals with nothing to show except an enhanced reputation for masculinity. To say that an international conference requires careful preparation is to say the obvious. (I would have preferred to follow the procedures and composition of the 1973 Geneva conference with American and Soviet leadership alone.) But to speak of "mortal danger," "disaster," "Munich," "the conversion of Tel Aviv to Arafat's village" and "a whetted knife" is pure hysteria. Israel is not emboldened by such exaggerated concern.

The worst aspect of the campaign against the Shultz initiative is that it enumerates all the imaginary dangers of accepting the initiative while saying nothing about the real dangers of rejecting it. Do they not realise that the collapse of the Shultz approach could make 1988 a tragic year for Israel, possibly dividing the country, escalating the violence in the occupied territories, dragging down the economy, eroding Israel's international relations and, at the end, threatening war with a united Arab coalition?

Israel's friends in America, who are far from this tragic area, should consult their conscience very sharply before they urge Israel to explore the dark horizon of rejectionism — The New York Times.

right to secure and recognised borders and that Israel must leave the territories that have been occupied since 1967.

We wholeheartedly support Israel's demand for security and recognition. At the same time it is in Sweden's security interests that the prohibition in international law against acquisition of territories by force be respected.

Another fundamental precondition for a solution is that the Palestinians' right to self-determination and possibility of establishing a state of their own should be realised. We support equally wholeheartedly these Palestinian demands.

Solidarity with the Palestinian people further requires that we strongly condemn the Israeli policies and their methods. These policies are in violation of principles of international and humanitarian law and can never be justified. As long as the occupation continues, Israel must be brought to follow the provisions of the fourth Geneva Convention on Protection of the Civilian Population in Time of War.

Israel and the PLO must accept that they should negotiate with

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY APRIL 7-8, 1988

OPEN FORUM

Stepping on many toes

IT seems that the august body of the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) are going ahead with their plans to hold their annual convention in Jerusalem later this year.

Despite dissenting voices from amongst its members, ABTA seem intent on showing the proverbial British stiff upper lip and all that.... at the expense of yet another proverbial British trait, that of fair play!

One cannot contend with the view that the Arab-Israeli conflict should not concern British travel agents, but with their determination to meet in Jerusalem, ABTA are stepping on a lot of toes, some of them in their own country. Let us not forget, that the often-quoted U.N. Resolution 242 was engineered to a great extent by Lord Caron. The British government have never recognised the annexation of Jerusalem. Whether they like it or not, ABTA's decision has political intentions and consequences.

By their action, ABTA are helping to undermine worldwide efforts (yes, British as well) to put an end to the misery of the Palestinians. Tourism is considered as one of the most effective means of spreading understanding and love among the peoples of this world, and taking sides is certainly not kosher.

Could it be that ABTA have not heard that Jerusalem has gone back to the Stone Age?

Munir Y. Nassar

and from the West Bank and Gaza for a period.

• Imposed a 24-hour curfew on the 650,000 residents of Gaza for several days, forcing them to stay in their homes.

Israel resents comparisons to South Africa, and the two societies are indeed very different. But many of the tactics being used now by the occupation authorities are right of the South African book: Mass detentions without trial, isolating resistant populations, banning the press.

And what we see is not limited to now. To this year, it is the future — if Yitzhak Shamir's refusal to withdraw from the occupied territories remains the policy of Israel. The price of occupation is going to be repression forever.

At Passover 1988, all who do not deny reality know that this is a time of choice for Israel, and for its friends everywhere. In one future lies equivalent of Belfast: Palestinian protests, stones and Molotov cocktails, met by Israel's overwhelming military force but never ending. The other way lies political compromise.

The Palestinians were like Banquo's ghost at our sedar table, and I imagine at many others. The reason was not just sympathy for other human beings with emotions so familiar and understandable. It was that the attempt to crush their dream is darkening the dream of Israel reborn.

In the last four months 122 Palestinians protesting Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza have been shot or beaten to death. One Israeli soldier has been killed.

At first the killing of one or two protesters was shocking. Now the toll of Palestinian deaths goes on, day after day. Nine in the week leading up to Passover and Easter. And there is no end in sight. The tactics used by Israel to repress the protests have gone well beyond clubs and tear gas and guns. In recent days the occupation authorities have taken these steps, among others:

• Detained more than 3,000 Palestinians without charges or trials.

• Shut down the Palestine Press Service, a news agency regarded by correspondents in Israel as highly reliable and well informed. The authorities said they did so to maintain "public order." Evidently the service was giving too accurate a picture of reality in the occupied territory.

• Banned foreign and Israeli reporters from the occupied territories for days, and excluded them from many parts of the territories at other times.

• Cut off all telephone calls to

each other. No solution can be represented in negotiations by those who have their confidence.

LETTERS

Two hours?

</

Palestinians unite for survival and uprising

By John Rice
The Associated Press

AL-BIREH, occupied West Bank — A web of unity has spread through the occupied lands in four months of violence, drawing Palestinians into committees for everything from tending emergency gardens to running the rebellion.

"I think the idea is that this uprising is going to go on a long time," said Muarak Awad, an Arab-American who promotes creation of civic action groups.

Boys and businessmen of this middle-class town turned the earth of a vacant lot this week and planted squash, tomatoes and cucumbers so their neighbourhood could have fresh produce during curfews imposed by the Israeli army.

Last month in Arura village, an Associated Press reporter spoke with young Palestinians who stood midnight watch to warn of approaching soldiers.

Nurses who got through an army blockade of Jerusalem's Shufat refugee camp in February said health workers had formed a loose network that could rush aid to areas where Palestinians clashed with soldiers.

"There are medical committees, agricultural committees, defence committees," said Saed Erakat, political science professor at Al Najah University.

"Many of these committees work in the open," and more secret groups organise strikes, protests and political activities in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, he said.

Erakat said the young leaders of secret groups generally are affiliated with factions of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"They may be new faces, but they will be new faces of leadership of the PLO," he said. "These are leaders who have become leaders because they are doing something to attack the occupation."

An underground network of PLO-affiliated leaders has shown its strength by demanding, and getting, mass resignations of Arab policemen in the occupied territories and nearly universal acceptance of commercial strikes.

Israel's attempt to crush the leadership with mass arrests has not stopped the clandestine leaflets.

Communique No. 11 told Palestinian to boycott institutions

linked to Israel and form "popular committees in every place, in city, village, camp and street."

Self-reliance

Leaflets urge people to "cultivate the land" increase self-reliance, police themselves in the absence of Palestinian policemen and start local manufacturing operations to lessen dependence on the Israeli economy.

Raja Shehadeh, a Palestinian lawyer, said neighbourhood groups had multiplied in tandem with economic and social hardships created by the uprising that began Dec. 8.

"I think it's happening a lot, especially for security and self-sufficiency," said Shehadeh, who leads a human rights group in Ramallah called Law in the Service of Man. "People are experiencing a siege."

Awad, the Arab-American head of the Centre for the Study of Non-Violence in Jerusalem, said groups of 10 to 20 families have formed throughout the West Bank, with the largest numbers in Beit Sahur, Ramallah and Nablus.

"In Beit Jalla at Al Amal

school, instead of having a playground for kids they cultivate... beans, cucumbers, onions, tomatoes," he said.

"I think the idea is that this uprising is going to go on a long time and the Israelis are going to push hard... the next step is to make the Palestinians feel hungry."

Food

Palestinian strikes and Israeli restrictions have complicated food supplies of fresh produce, but canned and packaged goods are in ample supply and there is no evidence of hunger.

Many residents have stockpiled food. Others buy groceries from farmers or merchants' homes rather than shops. When fresh produce is available, Palestinians often cannot buy it because of curfews.

Omar, a businessman in Al Birreh, said two dozen households in his neighbourhood formed a committee at the end of March, when the army sealed off the occupied territories for three days. He said his four new hens had laid their first eggs.

Less than a week later, he joined six men and eight children in cultivating a vacant lot. While they worked, army trucks rolled past shops that were closed for most of the previous week by a PLO ban on afternoon work and Israel's refusal to let them open in the morning.

The businessman, who asked that his last name be withheld, said the committee also had decided to start first aid classes, form security patrols and build an emergency stock of food.

"We made a request to every house to buy a big bag of flour" and arranged to buy food from store owners even when their shops are closed, he said.

"People are now thinking of collecting wood for baking," Omar's wife said. Israel cut off supplies of fuel oil and gasoline two weeks ago.

Sami, another committee member, said the grassroots groups would be harder for Israel to handle than labour unions, social associations and schools.

"There is no infrastructure the Israelis can control," he said. "To put it down, they'll have to arrest everybody," and in that case "you're not succeeding. You've lost control."

King, Shultz discuss requirements of peace

(Continued from page 1)

Shultz told accompanying American reporters His Majesty the King had given him a list of questions on the American peace plan, and that he intended to reply when he returned to Amman Wednesday night.

In his statements before leaving Israel, he praised the King's approach to peace efforts, "thus indicating a serious engagement in the search for peace," and said His Majesty's approach "is the kind of approach required for this process to move ahead."

In Damascus, President Assad told Shultz that a peace settle-

ment should involve Israeli withdrawal from all occupied territories and must be reached with the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Shultz said he made some headway with Assad on Lebanon. Assad said Syria appeared interested in new guidelines for a Lebanese constitution.

This could involve a reshuffling of the powers given rival factions in the country.

April Glaspie, a senior U.S. State Department official, remained in Damascus to continue the discussions.

However, on the U.S. peace proposal Shultz said sharp differ-

Hijack drama drags on

(Continued from page 1)
the aircraft at the hijackers' request.

A passenger list released in Bangkok indicated that the only two women left on the plane after the release of some passengers and stewardesses were the members of the royal family.

Contrary to the IRNA report, Tehran Radio quoted the doctor as saying there were no women left on board.

The list of released passengers issued by IRNA mentioned no Kuwaitis.

Iran's envoy to Britain said in London Tehran would make no concessions to the hijackers.

Mohammad Mehdi Akhond Zadeh Basti told Independent Television News (ITN): "Such an act is contrary to humanitarian principles and is categorically condemned by Iran. Iran is not going in any instance to give concessions."

The envoy spoke after meeting British Foreign Office officials.

A British Foreign Office spokesman said after Basti's talks that Tehran had refused permission for a Swedish diplomat representing British interests in Iran to travel to Mashhad.

Iraq fires 5 missiles into Tehran

(Continued from page 1)

missile hit an elementary school in Umm Qasr, killing three students and wounding 59 other children and teachers.

In Baghdad, reporters were shown 90 soldiers being treated in hospital for burns and eye injuries which they said were caused by Iranian poison gas attacks on the Kurdish town of Halabja in northeastern Iraq March 31.

"Tests have proved they were all hit by mustard gas which caused severe injuries and inflammation of their eyes, skin and sensitive parts of their bodies," Dr. Muzar Zeiden told the reporters.

Iraq has accused Iran of resorting to chemical weapons dur-

ing the March 30-31 fighting near Halabja in Sulaymaniyah province.

Iraq itself has charged Iran with using chemical weapons in the Halabja fighting to punish Kurdish rebels accused of aiding an Iranian invading force.

At the United Nations, sources quoted by the AP said a U.N. team would investigate the Iraqi charges that Iran used chemical weapons.

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Larjani, meanwhile, was scheduled to hold talks late Wednesday with Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar on implementing a ceasefire in the war. Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz was to hold U.N. talks in New York next week.

Libya, Tunisia sign accord

BEIRUT (R) — Libya and Tunisia have signed a cooperation pact covering political, cultural, economic and foreign relations, the official Libyan news agency JANA said Wednesday.

JANA, monitored in Beirut, said the agreement included cooperation in education, transport, industry, energy, agriculture and trade.

It said the pact, signed Tuesday night was the result of discussions in Tripoli between Tunisian Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche and Libyan officials.

The accord comes after a period of improving ties since last December when the two countries resumed diplomatic relations.

JANA quoted Baccouche, who arrived in Libya Sunday, as saying: "This agreement will be the new beginning of an ideal bilateral cooperation which will be a strong base to accomplish the unity of the Maghreb and Arab countries."

Vice-Foreign Minister Qian Qichen told the news conference China would not establish official

Peking says Saudi missiles help peace, condemns Israel

PEKING (Agencies) — Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian said Wednesday Chinese missiles sold to Saudi Arabia were purely for defensive purposes and would help peace in the Middle East.

Wu told a news conference in the Great Hall of the People that China was eager to establish official relations with Saudi Arabia and condemned Israeli threats of retaliation for the missile deal.

Last month, in an unusual disclosure of its arms exports, China said it had sold medium-range ground-to-ground missiles to Saudi Arabia.

"The Saudis have made a commitment to use them only for self-defence," Wu said. "This is to help peace in the Middle East."

Saudi Arabia had also given a commitment not to transfer the missiles. Wu said without elaborating. He repeated China's assurance that the weapons did not carry nuclear warheads.

"Some people in Israel have threatened to take steps against Saudi Arabia. We support the Arab condemnation of Israel," Wu added.

He said China wants to establish official ties "as soon as possible," with Saudi Arabia, which still recognises the rival nationalist government in Taiwan.

Wu said special envoy Deputy Foreign Minister Qi Husiyuan, was to return to Peking Wednesday from a tour of the Middle East where he met King Fahd in Saudi Arabia, the highest level meeting between the two countries in a series of recent official contacts.

China has not disclosed how many missiles were sold to Saudi Arabia and at what price. Soviet bloc sources said China had supplied about 12 missiles. They have a range of up to 3,500 kilometres.

In answer to journalists' questions, Wu repeated China's denial that it had sold weapons to Iran for use in its war against Iraq, but said both Iran and Iraq could have bought Chinese-made weapons through the international arms market.

China has stepped up its foreign weapons sales in recent years in an effort to earn hard currency and help finance its own weapons development programme. Western observers estimate China sells about \$2 billion worth of weapons abroad each year, placing it



Wu Xueqian

among the world's top five arms exporters.

Asked whether China was willing to sell weapons to any foreign country, Wu responded heatedly Wednesday.

"Our attitude on arms sales is a serious one. It's a responsible one as well," he said. "It's not a question of China selling weapons to all countries in the world."

"Some press tend to pick on China and whenever China sells weapons China becomes the newsmaker," he said. "How about the weapons flying around the Gulf region (in the Iran-Iraq war)... the Stinger and Exocet? These are not Chinese weapons. Why is it that some people always harass China with this so-called issue?"

Iran recently used U.S.-made Stinger missiles, which it said obtained from U.S.-supported Afghan rebels, the war. France has sold Exocet missiles to Iraq.

The United States has accused China of selling Silkworm missiles to Iran, a charge China repeatedly has denied.

Wu repeated the denial Wednesday and added: "China has long adopted strict measures to prevent Chinese missiles from flowing into Iran through the international market."

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AMMAN JORDAN

'Group of 77' to finalise global trade regime accord

BELGRADE (R) — The "Group of 77" developing countries began a ministerial meeting here Wednesday to complete an accord setting up the first global Third World regime for preferential trade and tariff concessions.

Senior experts from about 60 of the G-77 nations are putting final touches to the agreement this week, and will be joined by ministers at the weekend before next week's signing.

The accord is to create a regime under which tariffs can be removed or decreased for specified lists of products exchanged between these countries, officials said.

"Without this particular arrangement ... the developing countries would not be able to speed up their development, nor could they reduce the gap between the developing and developed world," Yugoslav Trade Minister Nenad Krekic said.

The officials said the accord, the Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP), would add a new dimension to world trade alongside existing blocs and regimes such as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the European Community (EC) and the Soviet-led trade bloc COMECON.

Bank says GCC earned \$1,000b from oil sales

DOHA (Agencies) — The six members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) earned more than \$1,000 billion from oil sales since 1985, spending most of the earnings on the development of their infrastructure, according to the Gulf International Bank (GIB).

In a report released at the weekend, the Manama-based bank said that the foreign exchange reserves of GCC reached \$200 billion.

In 1986 the private sector of the GCC — comprising OPEC members Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, together with Bahrain and Oman — deposited \$150 billion in various assets outside the region.

Noting an increasing role of the private sector in the development process, the report said that in 1986 the sector's contribution to the Gross Domestic Product averaged 36 per cent compared to 30 per cent in 1980.

The private sector's investment was still limited, despite its increase as a percentage of aggre-

gate capital assets, the report said.

March ceiling

In London, a Reuter survey showed Tuesday that OPEC, whose ministerial price committee meets Saturday to discuss weak oil prices, kept within its self-imposed output ceiling in March.

OPEC, curbing output to support prices, set a ceiling last December of 15.06 million barrels per day (BPD) for the first six months for 12 of its 13 members, to defend a price at \$18 a barrel.

Iraq refused to sign because of its rivalry with Gulf war foe Iran. Iraq which has no quota has been producing about 2.5 million BPD since then.

The survey, based on data from oil traders, shipping sources, industry executives and analysts in the Middle East, Europe, Asia and Latin America, showed OPEC's 13 members pumped an average 17.4 million BPD last month, slightly above February's estimated 17.3 million.

Krekic said the GSTP was just a start and could not meet the group's need entirely. Underdeveloped industry, technological lags, the debt burden, unemployment, famine and other handicaps would still hold back the group's development, he said.

But the accord would help promote further negotiations on long-term industrial cooperation, technology transfer and joint ventures among the member nations.

GSTP participants will have to exchange trade concessions with each other through bilateral agreements. So far, 32 of the countries have done this, more than was required to put the multilateral GSTP agreement into effect, de Gaspar said.

Further bilateral accords may be signed during the Belgrade conference this week.

Krekic said: "The developing countries expect the GSTP to expand and promote trade among themselves."

He noted that the Third World today account for only five to six per cent of world trade, saying that its trade growth had slowed in recent years to a general economic development crisis.

The new trade regime should boost self-reliance and lead to structural changes in the existing world economic order.

Nazer replaces American as ARAMCO chief

DHAHRAN (AP) — Saudi Arabia's oil minister, Hisham Nazer, has replaced an American to become the first Saudi chairman of the board of ARAMCO, his country's major oil-producing company, official sources said here.

Nazer took over from John J. Kelberer, the last American in the post since the Arabian American Oil Company began operations in Saudi Arabia 55 years ago.

The change was made during the recent meeting of ARAMCO's board in Houston, Texas, said the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Kelberer will remain on the board as vice-chairman, though he has effectively retired from service, said the sources.

ARAMCO's current president, Ali I. Naimi, will take over from Kelberer as chief executive, they said.

Kelberer has undergone a number of major surgical operations in recent years and is understood to have sought retirement after turning 60 two years ago. He has worked in Saudi Arabia for more than 37 years, as chairman of the board and chief executive for the past decade.

Nazer was appointed minister of petroleum and natural resources in Nov. 1986, replacing Ahmed Zaki Yamani.

ARAMCO continues to be registered in the American state of Delaware, though it is now 100 per cent Saudi-owned.

Nazer is understood to be studying the reorganisation of the kingdom's oil industry.

In addition to his posts as oil minister and ARAMCO chairman, he also heads the Royal Commission for Jubail and Yanbu, the body overseeing the country's petrochemical industry, and Petromin, the marketing company for Saudi petroleum products.

Visit to Mexico

In Mexico City, the government announced Tuesday that Nazer will visit Mexico this week to discuss the international market situation.

A statement from the Energy and Mines Department said the visit "responds to the traditional and active Mexican policy of dialogue and cooperation with other producing nations of petroleum, members or not members of OPEC, as well as with consuming nations."

Mexico is not a member of the Organisation of Oil Exporting Countries but closely monitors its price and production guidelines.

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- 1) The Water Authority of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has received a loan from the World Bank in various currencies towards the cost of water and sewerage projects and intends that part of the proceeds of this loan be applied to eligible payments under the contracts for the purchase of an odor control system for the Aqaba Raw Wastewater Pump Station.
- 2) The Water Authority therefore invites proposals from suitable qualified Jordanian contractor, international contractor, or a joint venture of Jordanian and international contracting firms for the design, construction, and initial operation of odor control system for the Aqaba Raw Wastewater Pump Station. Jordanian firms and/or Jordanian members of joint venture firms must be registered with the Ministry of Public Works and Housing as First Class in Electromechanical Works.
- 3) Interested contractors may obtain further information from and inspect the documents at the office of the Tender Department of the Water Authority, Shmeissani, P.O. Box 2412 Amman-Jordan. Telephone 680100. Telex 22439 WAJ JO.
- 4) Complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any eligible contractor on submission of a written application to the above address until May 10, 1988, and the payment of a non-refundable fee of JD 25.
- 5) The closing date for submission of offers is 12.00 noon May 11, 1988.

Secretary General of Water Authority
Eng. Mutazz Belbeisi

ROBO COP

Jordan, Oman review economic, trade links

AMMAN (Petra) — An Omani trade delegation met with Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Hamdi Tabbaa Wednesday and discussed the prospect of establishing a joint Jordan-Omani investment company.

The minister said that such a company would offer the private sectors in Oman and Jordan to make meaningful investments in development projects. The investment climate in Jordan is conducive to this because of solid infrastructure and laws which provide protection to investments and incentives for investors, Tabbaa noted.

Tabbaa also said that Jordan-Omani relations are unique. These strong relations were translated into a bilateral trade agreement and the formation of joint committee to work on increasing the volume of trade and industrial investments in the two countries, the minister said.

The Omani delegation later called at the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce to discuss bilateral economic, trade and touristic relations.

Both sides discussed launching joint economic ventures in industrial, services and agricultural fields.

The head of the Omani delegation paid tribute to Jordan for assisting Oman's development,

and said his country was keen on strengthening bridges of cooperation between the two countries.

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

United gives green signal to Whiteside

LONDON (R) — Manchester United signalled the start of a transfer scramble for the talents of Northern Ireland international Norman Whiteside by granting his request for a move Tuesday. Alex Ferguson, manager of the English First Division club, said: "The club board has said that it is not club policy to retain players who don't want to play for Manchester United. The board has therefore accepted Whiteside's request and is reluctantly prepared to consider offers." Whiteside, 22, who won a first team place at United when he was only 16, has since played almost 200 league games for the club. He represented Northern Ireland at the 1982 and 1986 World Cup finals.

Verona signs Argentine's Caniggia

VERONA, Italy (R) — Claudio Caniggia, who plays for Argentine club River Plate, has joined Italian first division side Verona for 2.8 billion lire (\$2 million). Verona said Tuesday the four-year contract was signed by club president Ferdinando Chiaffraini and River Plate president Hugo Santilli. Verona's other foreigners are Dane Preben Elkjaer and West German Thomas Berthold. The Italian soccer federation has increased the limit on foreign players to three from the start of next season from a current ceiling of two per club.

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carol Fletcher Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 1988

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Don't do any bumming and bawling today. Use care in handling the details of all your correspondence.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) If you've got a good friend has been put off for much too long, this is a good time to make it, but be very careful while driving this evening.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Don't ignore practical concerns in order to have a good time with your friends. Enlist the aid of a pal to do some home improvement work.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) With the help of an expert, you can get that big idea you have been working on across to a superior. Be more considerate of your mate.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Be sure to listen to the opinions of others, as these could help you update your point of view. You will be presented with a fine opportunity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) If you get up and at 'em early today, you can make a fantastic coup in business. Put some time aside for recreation tonight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Be very careful about losing your temper with anyone today, or you'll regret it later. Try to come to a better understanding with your mate.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You will have the ability to deepen relationships and improve understanding today, so get together with all your good friends.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) With a little bit of effort, you can greatly improve your credit and civic situations. Others will listen to your opinions readily today.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 1988

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You can make some great advances where financial and property matters are concerned, but only if you act quickly and keep your wits about you. Be sure you don't overlook any important details.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Listen to, and learn from, persons of vast experience, but don't act too hastily with this newfound knowledge; it's over first.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't beat around the bush with anyone today. Just say whatever is on your mind for good results. Use your creative talents.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A good friend wants to take you away from your work for a good time today, but you would be wise to avoid letting this happen.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) This is a good time to revise your budget. Be sure to allow for relaxation, but nothing too extravagant. Drive with the utmost care tonight.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) A person who is too often apt to go off on crazy tangents could deter your progress if you allow it, so try to avoid this person.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) If you listen more carefully to what your superiors and co-workers have to say, you will benefit. Don't be influenced by a stranger.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Set up your schedule for the day early

Cruyff to coach Barcelona

MADRID (R) — Johan Cruyff will almost certainly take over as Barcelona coach next season, Spanish state radio reported Tuesday. The radio said current coach Luis Aragonés might be made manager of the club although he had told them he would not share a job with Cruyff and would not stay with Barcelona next season. The comments came after Barcelona president Jose Luis Nunez held a working dinner with Aragonés and the players. A club spokesman refused to confirm or deny the report and said no announcement would be made until the season ended on June 30. Dutchman Cruyff was a star player for Barcelona in the 1970s. He resigned as coach of Dutch side Ajax Amsterdam in January. Barcelonans have had a disappointing season and are ninth in the Spanish first division, 22 points behind leaders Real Madrid. But they salvaged a place in Europe next season when they won the Spanish Cup last week, beating Real Sociedad 1-0. The radio said Aragonés had been offered a job as coach to Valencia.

Flamengo advances to next round

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Rio's Flamengo easily beat Estudiantes de la Plata 3-0 (1-0) advancing to the next round of the South American Champions Soccer Super Cup, at the Maracana Stadium Tuesday night. Luis Henrique, at the fourth minute, Renato Gaucho, 72nd, and Bebeto at the 88th minute, scored for the winners. Flamengo now face Nacional of Uruguay at the end of April in a home-and-away knockout series. Only 8,653 fans paid to watch tonight's match, which turned out to be a violent game through the weakness of Bolivian referee Juan Oscar Vargas, who failed to keep control of discipline. Vargas booked Renato Gaucho and Ze Carlos II, of Flamengo, and Aguero and Gissel of Estudiantes. In the first match of the series last week Buenos Aires, the two teams drew 1-1.

Celtic moves ahead of Glasgow Rangers

LONDON (R) — Glasgow Celtic, who have stolen much of the thunder of big-spending neighbours Glasgow Rangers this season, moved to within one point of the Scottish Premier League title Tuesday when they beat St. Mirren 2-0.

Andy Walker, with his 29th goal of the season, settled Celtic's nerves after 88 minutes — he had missed a penalty seven minutes earlier — and Paul McStay added the second 12 minutes from time.

The win before a parkhead crowd of 45,465 stretched the league leaders' unbeaten run to 30 games and opened a 10-point gap between them and second-placed Hearts, their only remaining rivals for the title.

Celtic will clinch the championship if they take a point from their trip to Tynecastle to meet Hearts April 16.

Severe blow

Wimbledon's preparations for Saturday's English F.A. Cup semifinal against Luton suffered a severe blow when leading scorer John Fashanu was injured in the 2-1 home league defeat by Coventry. Fashanu, scores of 20 goals this season, limped off with what appeared to be a pulled hamstring after only five minutes.

Coventry, last season's F.A. Cup winners, scored twice inside two minutes midway through the first half through Brian Kilcline (penalty) and Keith Houchen. Centre half Eric Young replied for Wimbledon in the 40th minute.

Another blow

Mel Sterland's late equaliser for Sheffield Wednesday denied Luton an important boost to their sagging morale before their clash with Wimbledon.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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MORE THAN ONE WAY HOME

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH	
♦ A 8 5 2	
♦ K 7 9	
♦ A 3	
♦ A K 3	

WEST	EAST
♦ 1 10	♦ K 9 7 6 3
♦ 7 4	♦ 6 5 2
♦ K 1 9 6 5 4	♦ 10 7
♦ 8 5 2	♦ 9 7 4

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	5 NT	Pass
7 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass 5 NT Pass

7 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♦

Let's suppose that you become declarer at seven hearts. How do you intend to make your contract?

Your partner has bid the hand well. He made a fourth-round forcing bid of two diamonds to give you the opportunity of showing delayed spade support. When you failed to take a spade preference, he had every reason to suspect you were short in the suit, so he used the Grand Slam Force to find out whether you had the two of the three top honors in hearts, the implicitly agreed trump

suit. Your leap to seven hearts confirmed that holding.

Now you have to make that contact after a spade lead. You have only 11 top tricks. From where will the other two come?

Your first chance is to find the kind of spades needed exactly twice. That will produce two more spade tricks for you, so you win the ace of spades and ruff a spade with the eight of hearts (just in case).

You cross back to dummy with the King of clubs and ruff another spade high. When West fails to follow, is it time to throw in the towel?

Not yet. If trumps are 3-2, you can get home with a dummy reversal.

Cross to the table with the ace of clubs and ruff another spade high, then go back to the ace of diamonds to ruff the table's last spade with the ace of trumps. All that remains is for you to lead your remaining trump and use dummy's three trumps to extract the opponents' fangs. When both follow to the first two trump leads, you can claim 13 tricks. You have accomplished this minor miracle by increasing your number of trump tricks from five to seven — three high trumps in dummy and four ruffs in your hand. To go with that you have the aces of spades and diamonds and four club tricks.

Hough — still a baseball hero

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — In a game where most of the victories go to the young and swift, Charlie Hough is old and slow.

But he is sure to strongly figure in whatever fate awaits the Texas Rangers this year in the American League West. The 40-year-old Hough, whose fluttering knuckleball can barely be clocked by a radar gun, proved it again Monday night.

Hough gets rough under pressure.

He went eight innings on a night when he couldn't get his knuckler to behave properly. His 4-3 victory over the Cleveland Indians could not have come at a better time as a confidence builder for the Rangers.

Texas started 1-10 last year, and not even Hough's 18 victories could save the club. He pitched more innings than anybody in the league.

"Charlie is amazing," manager Bobby Valentine said. "He is such a tough competitor that he's hard to beat even on his off nights. Charlie pitched well enough to win. He just kept getting them out in the clutch."

Case in point was Monday night when Hough said, "I didn't have a good knuckleball the

whole game."

The Indians touched him for three homers, but he hung tough.

"I always seem to get lucky against them," said Hough, who has won his last 13 games against the Indians and 16-4 lifetime.

He threw 111 pitches, but didn't have his arm iced down afterward.

"I'm still in great shape," he said. "Who knows? I might still be around four years from now."

The Rangers may be developing an ace reliever to help pick Hough up and that could make the Rangers elder statesman a threat to win 20 games.

Mitch Williams earned a save by picking a runner off base then striking out two more in the ninth inning against Cleveland.

"I like coming in after Charlie," said the 21-year-old Williams, one of the young and swift. "It makes my fastball look faster after Charlie's twirling his knuckler."

Hough and Williams picked three Indians off the bases.

"It was the kind game we lost last year," said designated hitter Larry Parrish. "We looked up after the first two weeks and the season was over. This is the way you are supposed to start."

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Ettinger

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By Gayle Dean

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38 Necktie 62 Baby 83 On land

39 Necktie 63 Baby 84 Neck part

40 Necktie 64 Baby 85 Put two and

41 Necktie 65 Baby 86 together

42 Necktie 66 Baby 87 Large hump

43 Necktie 67 Baby 88 Peat

44 Necktie 68 Baby 89 Rose

45 Necktie 69 Baby 90 St. Elmo's

46 Necktie 70 Baby 91 Baby's little

47 Necktie 71 Baby 92 Baby's little

48 Necktie 72 Baby 93 Baby's little

49 Necktie 73 Baby 94 Baby's little

50 Necktie 74 Baby 95 Baby's little

51 Necktie 75 Baby 96 Baby's little

52 Necktie 76 Baby 97 Baby's little

53 Necktie 77 Baby 98 Baby's little

54 Necktie 78 Baby 99 Baby's little

55 Necktie 79 Baby 100 Baby's little

56 Necktie 80 Baby 101 Baby's little

Aquino brushes aside renewed Honasan threat

MANILA (AP) — The fugitive leader of last August's coup attempt vowed new attacks against the government, but President Corazon Aquino said Wednesday that mutineers lacked enough support to oust her.

A statement attributed to former Lieutenant-Colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan said his group is withdrawing its promise to cease hostile acts against Aquino. The group has promised cessation last November to give Aquino time to fulfill promises to improve the government that she made after the Aug. 28 coup attempt.

"It has become obvious by its own actions, that the Aquino administration is incapable of ensuring the very survival of this nation over the next few years. We have to act and act boldly," the statement said.

The statement was distributed Wednesday to news organisations. Honasan escaped Saturday from a prison ship in Manila Bay, where he had been held since his arrest Dec. 9.

Military spokesman Colonel Oscar Florendo said troops took no trace of Honasan despite a nationwide search.

Aquino told reporters Wednesday her government had taken steps to rectify problems cited by Honasan during his abortive coup, in which at least 53 people were killed and hundreds wounded.

"I think he will have to admit that the government had adequately answered already the legitimate grievances, and I think the Filipino people definitely will go against Honasan," Aquino said. "He will not be able to get any support."

Honasan's complaints included low military pay and lack of an effective strategy against Com-

a new direction toward good government and a reformed" military, Honasan said.

"To this day, after seven months, many officers and men implicated in the August 28 incident are still detained without charges and without trial," he added.

"Their right to due process and speedy trial were completely disregarded by the Aquino administration despite its pretensions of being democratic and just, while affording the same rights to captured elements of the CPP (Philippine Communist Party)-NPA, the real enemies of the people," he said.

No further comment

During his press conference, Ramos also said there was no evidence foreigners were involved in Honasan's escape. Philippine newspapers and some congressmen speculated the Americans may have played a role to pressure the government during current talks on the status of U.S. military bases in the Philippines.

On Tuesday, opposition Senator Juan Ponce Enrile, a former defence minister, called on Ramos and Chief of Staff General Renato de Villa to resign because of "incompetence" in allowing Honasan to escape.

Honasan served as chief of security at the Defense Ministry when Enrile was defence chief. Enrile was fired Nov. 23, 1986, after the government thwarted a coup attempt by his followers. "I don't know whether this deserves further comment," Ramos said Wednesday of Enrile's call. "We all know that Sen. Enrile, with due respect to him, had a great deal to do over a period of so many years in the forming of the character of Greigio Honasan."

Apparently, this administration has no intention of effecting genuine reconciliation in our fragmented society because of its inordinate fear of losing power to people whose only vision is to set

Antonio Noriega. The Panamanian government has called the U.S. deployment a provocation. It says the United States is seeking a pretext to invade and oust Noriega, a former ally turned adversary.

Nineteen men and three women wearing the red berets of the 16th Military Police Brigade's Airborne Unit stepped off a C-141 Starlighter transport plane at the Howard Air Base after a four-and-a-half hour flight from North Carolina.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Suspected spy caught in the act

LONDON (R) — A London art dealer facing espionage charges was in radio contact with a foreign power when police raided his north London home, a Central London magistrate's court heard Tuesday. Prosecution lawyer Michael Biddi told a remand hearing that Erwin Van Haarlem, who was charged Monday under Britain's Official Secrets Act, "was making direct contact by radio with a foreign power" when police arrested him Saturday. "There are considerable inquiries still to take place," Biddi told the court, adding that police had found transmitting equipment and documents.

Children demand repatriation to Pakistan

DHAKA (AP) — Nearly 2,000 children of the Pakistani nationals stranded in Bangladesh since 1971 marched through the streets of Dhaka Wednesday demanding they be sent home. The children, aged 6 to 15, carried placards saying "We want to go to Pakistan, our land," and "We want to live like Pakistani nationals." All the children were born after Bangladesh got independence from Pakistan in 1971. More than 500,000 Pakistanis were stranded in Bangladesh after the nine-month independence war and only half of them have since been repatriated. Islamabad says it is committed to bringing its citizens back to Pakistan but is hampered by a lack of funds.

FBI warns anti-apartheid activists

WASHINGTON (AP) — Anti-apartheid activists in the United States say they have been warned by the FBI they might be targeted by South African government hit teams. The warnings have taken on special importance in the face of last week's assassination in Paris of Dulcie September, a representative of the African National Congress (ANC) which is fighting to topple the white minority South African government, the activists say. The ANC blamed the South African government for Ms. September's shooting death but South Africa denied the allegation. The Washington representative of the ANC, Dumi Matabani, said he was contacted last September by FBI agents who told them "had a strong suspicion that a South African hit squad" might be in the United States. "They said they would try and stop it, and told me to be careful," Matabani said. The FBI did not offer any protection but "they told me that if I was followed, I should take the car number and call them," Matabani said.

Dalai Lama says Britain 'over cautious'

LONDON (R) — The Dalai Lama accused Britain Tuesday of being too cautious in its relations with China and said its policy towards Tibet was not always clear. The exiled 52-year-old spiritual leader of six million Tibetans told a London news conference on the second day of a private 12-day visit that Britain had a special relationship with his homeland. "Britain is more fully aware of the Tibetan situation than most (Western countries)," the Dalai Lama said. But Britain's position on Tibet was not as clear as it could be, he said, adding: "Sometimes it deals with China regarding Tibet, sometimes it deals directly with Tibet. The Tibetan issue is something very sensitive to the government of the People's Republic of China. The British government wants close relations with the People's Republic... so naturally sometimes it will seem cautious, but sometimes it will seem over cautious."

By Ronald Farquhar
Reuter

GENEVA — The main international body entrusted with improving the world's health is celebrating its 40th birthday by handing out medals to anti-smoking campaigners.

A Belgian cartoonist, Australia's Wimbledon tennis champion Pat Cash, two Tokyo taxi drivers, and European television personalities are among some 40 people receiving the awards from the World Health Organisation (WHO), an official at its Geneva headquarters said.

The 166-member agency of the United Nations, which has eradicated the scourge of smallpox and is battling a world epidemic of the killer disease AIDS, has also targeted the tobacco habit as a "major avoidable cause of ill health and early death."

It estimates that about 2.5 million people die every year from diseases related to smoking or chewing tobacco — lung cancer, chronic bronchitis, emphysema and heart ailments.

The organisation has banned smoking in its Geneva offices since last year, and proclaimed April 7 — the 40th anniversary of its foundation — as the world's first "No Tobacco Day."

Tobacco-free societies
At ceremonies around the globe, WHO officials will present commemorative medals to people working outside the health sphere for "achievements worthy of international recognition in promoting the concept of tobacco-free societies."

Among laureates expected to come to Geneva to receive their

Managua rejects contra demands

SAPOA, Nicaragua (R) — Nicaragua rejected Tuesday demands by U.S.-backed contra rebels for unlimited freedom of movement and lodging in the hotel of their choice during high-level ceasefire talks in Managua.

"Their right to due process and speedy trial were completely disregarded by the Aquino administration despite its pretensions of being democratic and just, while affording the same rights to captured elements of the CPP (Philippine Communist Party)-NPA, the real enemies of the people," he said.

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The Sapo accord ... do not call for a meeting in Managua for a political campaign," Cuadra said.

"What the accords say is that in a high-level meeting in Managua a definitive ceasefire is to be discussed."

The Sapo meeting gathered technical experts from both sides in a converted customs house near the southern border with Costa Rica.

Their task was to draw boundaries for two special "ceasefire zones" required by the accord. Rebels were to move into the zones before gradually laying down their arms and returning to civilian life.

Rebel leader Aristides Sanchez said Tuesday the contras were negotiating ceasefire zones with great care, not wanting to jeopardise their capacity to return to combat.

"If the Sapo accords are not complied with ... They (the contrabands) must have the capacity to renew the war until democratisation of the country is achieved," Sanchez told a news conference after three hours of talks here.

Five other ceasefire zones were mapped out in talks among the same delegations here last week and the negotiations were expected to continue Wednesday.

Earlier, in a Miami news conference, rebel leaders said they would not attend the Managua talks at all if they were denied freedom to hold meetings with opposition groups.

They would bolster the present U.S. force of 1,270 security personnel and 10,000 other troops already in Panama as tension remained high over efforts by Washington and the Panamanian opposition to oust Noriega.

An April 2 letter to contra leaders from Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tmoco had said: "We consider counter-productive any kind of political activity outside the framework and objective of the Managua meeting."

Authorities said the ring, allegedly headed by Tal with

Dukakis regains lead over Jackson with Wisconsin win

Solid shot

The contest now moves to New York, which chooses 255 delegates on April 19.

Polls show Dukakis with a big lead there, a state that many political experts say will decide the Democratic race.

But Jackson begins the New York contest with solid support among blacks who make up about 25 per cent of the Democratic electorate.

He won about 25 per cent of the white vote in Wisconsin and if he matches that performance in New York he has a solid shot at winning the state contest.

But he also faces opposition from much of the Jewish community — which about matches New York's black vote — because of his sympathy for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and his 1984 campaign use of the ethnic slur "hymietown" to describe New York City.

Gore, who has yet to show significant strength outside his native South, could unintentionally help Jackson in New York if he siphons a significant number of white votes from Dukakis.

Despite his twin victories, Dukakis said he expected no "knockout punch" in the slow struggle toward the nomination. "This is going to be a 15-round bout and it will be a decision... There's no such thing as a knockout punch."



Michael Dukakis

"Our competition is really not each other. It is George Bush and we're going to keep our eyes on the real prize."

In the Republican primary, Bush captured 83 per cent of the vote over former television evangelist Pat Robertson, his lone remaining rival, and senate Minority leader Robert Dole, who was on the ballot even though he quit the race last week.

Final tallies were not available, but Dukakis also picked up the biggest share of the 81 national convention delegates at stake in Wisconsin. Candidates need 2,082 delegates to win the Democratic Party convention in July.

Jackson told CBS Television that he was more concerned with defeating Vice-President George Bush, the certain Republican nominee, in the November general election.

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Gandhi, Carlucci discuss security concerns

NEW DELHI (AP) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi met U.S. Defence Secretary Frank C. Carlucci Tuesday and conveyed India's "serious concern about Pakistan's nuclear programme" and the continued supply of American arms to the rival nation, reports said.

The two leaders met for one hour and discussed a variety of issues, including the situation in Afghanistan, the United Nations of India (UNI) news agency reported.

Gandhi expressed serious concern at Pakistan's reported attempts to acquire a nuclear bomb, UNI said.

American officials declined to make any statement on the meeting Tuesday.

India says Pakistan is close to making a nuclear bomb but Islamabad denies the charge.

Gandhi also discussed with Carlucci the reported attempts by Pakistan to acquire sophisticated U.S. missiles even after the Soviet Union's decision to pull out of Afghanistan, UNI reported.

Baby 'Moses' rescued

NEWCASTLE, South Africa — A baby, wrapped in newspaper and sealed in a plastic trash bag, was rescued by two fishermen who heard him crying among the reeds near the shore, police said Tuesday. The baby, whom police called "Moses," was in satisfactory condition at the Newcastle Hospital in Natal province.

Officials were not sure of his race, but police Lieutenant Pieter Van Straaten said he had a light complexion, longish brown hair, and could be Indian or mixed-race. Van Straaten said the infant had been born only about an hour before he was found and still had the umbilical cord attached. Two white men, Jan Bekker, 27 and Anton Venster, 19, were fishing along the Ncandu River on the outskirts of Newcastle when they saw the trash bag floating downstream Monday. They heard cries but thought they came from the opposite river bank, the South African Press Association (SAPA) reported. Then the bag got stuck in reeds on the opposite bank, about 30 metres from the fishermen and they said they heard the baby crying. Venster, a bank clerk with an artificial leg, took off his clothes and swam across the swiftly flowing river, opened the bag and found the baby, Van Straaten said. SAPA said Venster tied off the umbilical cord with catgut and cut it, then the two men rushed Moses to the hospital.

Oasis census

NOUAKCHOTT, Mauritania (R) — Thousands of desert nomads in Mauritania will find census forms when they reach their next oasis. Questionnaires are waiting in special posts which have been set up at every known watering hole in the sparsely populated country, straddling the division between Arab North Africa and black West Africa.

Israelis accused in money scam plead innocent

NEWARK, New Jersey (AP) — Two Israelis accused as the U.S. leaders of an international, multi-million-dollar money-laundering operation entered formal pleas of innocent Tuesday.

A trial date for Adi Tal and Nir Goldstein, both 27, was set for sometime in September by U.S. District Judge John Bissell.

The three were among 16 people — including a prominent Seattle rabbi, two Colombians and three people in Israel — indicted by a grand jury in Newark on charges for money laundering.

Authorities said the ring, allegedly headed by Tal with

Goldstein as his chief deputy, illegally deposited \$350,000 to \$400,000 a week by breaking it down into smaller amounts that would not have to be reported to the government.

U.S. law requires bank transactions of more than \$10,000 to be reported and prohibits breaking down transactions to evade the requirement.

The total amount of money that allegedly was laundered by the ring exceeded \$25 million, Assistant U.S. Attorney Stuart J. Rabner told Bissell Tuesday.

Authorities have not identified the origin of the cash.

The two leaders met for one hour and discussed a variety of issues, including the situation in Afghanistan, the United Nations of India (UNI) news agency reported.

Relatively high costs of caring for AIDS patients in Third World countries could also divert resources needed to improve primary health care there, Dr. Mann told Reuters.

On the other hand, he said, aspects of the anti-AIDS campaign in developing nations such as educating people how to avoid the disease, and building up medical laboratory facilities in effect strengthened the "Health For All" drive.

Lagging financial contributions, particularly by the United States because of congressional restraints, have forced the WHO to trim its